

Message Text

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ORIGIN COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-06 EPA-04 CEQ-01 NSF-02
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 EB-07 ERDA-07
HUD-02 INT-05 HEW-06 DOTE-00 CG-00 AGRE-00 TRSE-00
/122 R

DRAFTED BY NOAA/NMFS:RVMILLER
APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:HSPIELMAN
EPA/EXECSEC/WBROWN
EUR/SOV:WVEALE

----- 100793 /61

R 222222Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 309370

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SENV, US, UR
SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, MARINE MAMMALS PROJECT,
02.05-61

1. REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING DATED DEC. 21 TO DR. V.A.
ZEMSKIY, DIRECTOR, MARINE MAMMAL LABORATORY, VNIRO, ULITSA B.
KRASNOSAL'SKAYA 17, MOSCOW, (B-140) (TELEPHONE 264-8683),
WITH COPIES TO KAZAKOV OF HYDROMET, NIKONOROV OF MINISTRY
OF FISHERIES, AND A.A. BERZIN, TINRO, LENIN STREET 20,
VLADIVOSTOK.

2. "02.05-61 DECEMBER 21, 1976
DEAR DR. ZEMSKIY: IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NOV. 19, 1976,
MEMORANDUM OF THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE AND
IN RESPONSE TO YOUR TELEGRAM OF DEC. 10, 1976, I HAVE THE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO TRANSMIT TO YOU:

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A. THE NEXT PROJECT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR 18-25 JAN.
1977 IN LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA, AT THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES
SERVICE SOUTHWEST FISHERIES CENTER. BECAUSE SEVERAL US
SCIENTISTS HAD CONFLICTS WITH OTHER MEETINGS EARLIER IN
JANUARY WE REGRETFULLY COULD NOT CHANGE THE MEETING DATE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR REQUEST OF OCT. 27, 1976. (THIS WAS

DISCUSSED BY DR. BROWN WITH DR. KAZAKOV AT THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING IN NOV.) WE WILL MEET YOUR DELEGATES UPON ARRIVAL IN THE USA AND WILL ACCOMPANY THEM TO LA JOLLA. PLEASE INFORM ME BY CABLE WHO WILL BE IN THE DELEGATION AND THEIR EXACT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES AND FLIGHTS. (I ASSUME THEY WILL ARRIVE SUNDAY, JAN. 16, AT NEW YORK.) ATTACHED IS A COPY OF THE TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING. IF YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO SUGGEST FOR THE AGENDA, PLEASE TRANSMIT THEM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE BY CABLE.

B. WITH REFERENCE TO ITEM 4 OF THE MARINE MAMAL SECTION OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM, PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE US SIDE WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CRUISE OF THE WHALING SHIP "ZHARIKI" IN THE TROPICAL REGION OF THE PACIFIC OCEAN DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1977. A RECENT US WORKSHOP REVIEWED THE STATUS OF REMOTELY IMPLANTABLE RADIO TAGS WHICH ARE UNDER EXPERIMENTATION BY SEVERAL GROUPS OF C SCIENTISTS IN THE USA. RESULTS OF THE WORKSHOP INDICATED THAT BECAUSE OF UNCERTAINTIES IN THE DELIVERY SYSTEM THE PROBABILITY OF SUCCESSFUL IMPLANTATION WAS TOO SMALL TO WARRANT OPEN OCEAN TRIALS ON SPECIES SUCH AS SPERM WHALES AND CERTAIN BALEEN WHALES AT THIS TIME. THE WORKSHOP RECOMMENDED MODIFICATIONS BE MADE AND FURTHER EXPERIMENTATION CONDUCTED ON DEAD ANIMALS AND IN INSHORE WATERS ON BETTER TARGET SPECIES. THEREFORE, WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CONDUCT RADIO TAGGING EXPERIMENTS WHICH WAS THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR POSSIBLE US PARTICIPATION.

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3. HOWEVER, THE US SIDE DOES INTEND TO MAKE MODIFICATIONS TO THE TAG AND BE ABLE TO CONTINUE EXPERIMENTS ON HUMPBACK WHALES IN SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA THIS SUMMER. THEREFORE, WE REITERATE THE INVITATION IN ITEM 6 OF THE MEMORANDUM FOR ONE SOVIET SCIENTIST TO PARTICIPATE IN A HUMPBACK WHALE STUDY CRUISE IN ALASKA FOR THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF JULY 1977 (RATHER THAN AUGUST-SEPTEMBER) FOR THE PURPOSES OF CONTINUING EXPERIMENTATION ON RADIO TAGGING AND TRACKING AND OTHER BIOLOGICAL STUDIES. A DETAILED DISCUSSION OF THIS SUBJECT WILL BE HELD AT THE JANUARY MEETING IN LA JOLLA.

4. WE WILL BE READY TO RECEIVE TWO SOVIET SCIENTISTS FOR THREE-FOUR WEEKS TO WORK ON SMALL CETACEANS AND GENERAL CETACEAN MORPHOLOGY IN JANUARY 1977 AT THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE, SOUTHWEST FISHERIES CENTER LA JOLLA. PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHO THE TWO SCIENTISTS WILL BE AND THE DURATION OF THEIR

VISIT. UNLESS I HEAR TO THE CONTARY FROM YOU, I WILL ASSUME
IT WILL BE DRS. YABLOKOV AND A.S. SOKOLOV AND THAT THEY WILL
ARRIVE WITH THE DELEGATION TO THE PROJECT MEETING.

SINCERELY,

ROBERT V. MILLER, US CHAIRMAN

MARINE MAMMALS PROJECT

US-USSR ENVIROMENTAL AGREEMENT

ATTACHMENT (AGENDA)

MARINE MAMMAL PROJECT

US-USSR ENVIROMENTAL AGREEMENT

TENTATIVE AGENDA

18-25 JANUARY 1977

1. FINALIZATION OF TENTATIVE AGENDA

2. EXCHANGE OF HARVEST DATA ON ALL SPECIES OF MUTUAL INTEREST,
INCLUDING AGE AND SEX COMPOSITION WHERE KNOWN

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3. DISCUSSION OF HARVESTING TECHNIQUES FOR WALRUS AND POSSIBLE
EXCHANGE OF AGE-SPECIFIC REPRODUCTIVE DATA

4. COMPLETION OF EXCHANGE OF 1975 WALRUS AERIAL SURVEY DATA

5. REVIEW OF COLLABORATIVE WORK DURING PREVIOUS 18 MONTHS

A. EXPEDITIONS

B. WORKING VISITS

6. DISCUSSION OF USE OF STANDARD MEASUREMENTS OF ANIMALS
TAKEN DURING COLLABORATIVE EXPEDITIONS

7. CRITIQUE AND DISCUSSINO OF MARINE MAMMAL ASSETMENT TECH-
NIQUES REVIEWS OF ONGOING RESEARCH

8. DISCUSSION OF SEA OTTER MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

9. SUMMARY OF US OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF ENVIROMENTAL ASSE-
SSMENT PROGRAM STUDIES

10. WALRUS-ICE SEAL RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE
CONSERVATION CONVENTION ON THESE ANIMALS

1. DISCUSSION OF GRAY AND BOWHEAD WHALE RESEARCH AND HARVEST

12. REVIEW OF HUMPBACK WHALE RESEARCH (ASSESSMENT AND DIS-
TRIBUTIONAL STUDIES INCLUDING RADIO TRACKING)

NEW PROPOSALS

13 EXCHANGE OF SIENTISTS TO STUDY WALRUS AND/OR ICE SEALS
ALONG SOVIET AND AMERICAN COASTS

14. PREPARATION OF COMPENDIUM OF PAPERS ON BERING SEA PINN-
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IPED RESEARCH CONDUCTED UNDER THE ASUPICES OF THE US-USSR
MARINE MAMMAL PROJECT

15. OTHER
ROBINSON.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, ENVIRONMENT, SPECIES PROTECTION, PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE, PLANNING MEETINGS, SCIENTIFIC VISITS, SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), WILD LIFE, OCEANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE309370
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RVMILLER
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760470-0681
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761219/aaaaaqkx.tel
Line Count: 186
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT, MARINE MAMMALS PROJECT, 02.05-61
TAGS: SENV, US, UR
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006